

# ALLIES ARE ON OFFENSIVE IN MACEDONIA

## Important Positions Held For Three Years Taken by Serbian and French Troops

### HAIG AND FOCH ADVANCING ON VITAL POSITIONS

WITH THE BRITISH FORCES IN FRANCE, Sept. 16, by The Associated Press.—Field Marshal Haig's forces continued their steady improvement of the British line yesterday at various points. The most important gains recorded were in the Ypres-Comines canal sector where an advance of about 1,000 yards was achieved near the canal and in the Havrincourt zone where posts were established along the Canal du Nord to the east of Demicourt, thereby giving the aggressors a better position for future operations should they be undertaken.

German artillery has maintained a steady bombardment at Havrincourt and in the surrounding territory.

PARIS, Sept. 16.—The town of Vailly on the north bank of the Aisne east of Soissons has been captured, the war office announces today.

The French have continued their progress between the Oise and Aisne and captured Mon des Singes.

#### Allies Attack Bulgars

Allied troops are on the offensive on the Macedonian front. Re-organized Serbian forces, aided by French units, are attacking the Bulgarian positions in the mountain on the Serbo-Greek border east of Monastir.

Three important hill positions which had withstood allied efforts through several years already have fallen. The heights are Sokol, Dobropolie and Teak Vetrnik. The captured positions are about midway between the Cerna and Vardar rivers and command the upper course of the Cerna after it makes a wide curve southeast of Monastir. Several hundred prisoners have been taken in the advance which continues.

Meanwhile, the French and British troops on the main battle front in France continue their progress.

North of the Aisne the French have captured Vailly and are near the Chemin des Dames and have stormed Mont des Singes, an important hill position.

Pushed forward near posts while along the Ypres-Comines canal southeast of Ypres they have advanced on a front of two miles. West of Cambrai and around St. Quentin the activity has lessened after the British capture of Maisemey.

The aerial and artillery arms have been active on the new American front southwest of Metz. The enemy guns have been hammering the American lines but no infantry attacks have developed. Allied aviators have bombarded railroad centers and other military targets in the Metz area while enemy aviators have bombed some places within the American lines, including St. Mihiel.

#### German Artillery Active

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, Sept. 16, 12:30 p. m. (By The Associated Press).—Activity of the German artillery increased somewhat during the forenoon today. No infantry attacks, however, were made.

Intense aerial activity marked the operations early today.

The Germans have not resisted minor movements calculated to consolidate the American line which has now become firmly established.

#### American Bombing Enemy

All night American bombing airplanes Sunday night dropped more than 17 tons of bombs on Courcelles, Eprange, Saarbrücken, Boulay, Duhl, Conflans and other points. The bombs dropped on Conflans were directed against the railway yards, the center of the German communications in this region. The roads crossing the Moselle were also attacked by the airplanes. Many direct hits were observed.

An enemy train hit at Longuyon.

#### Numerous Raids Made

Pursuit groups, protected by a barrage, carried out numerous raids and scored victories in several engagements. Attempts of German aviators to cross the American line were unsuccessful generally.

Enemy airplanes last night attacked points within the enemy lines. Bombs were dropped on St. Mihiel and the Germans used their machine guns against that town but with little effect.

#### Artillery Park Captured

Reports from different points along the line show that the number of runs and the general material captured by the Americans is increasing. An en-

### LENINE SEEKING AN ALLY

Premier Sees Disaster on Czecho-Slovak Front.

#### BOLSHEVIK WEAK

Would Make Alliance With Other Countries, Even Imperialists.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—Hints that the Bolshevik government may seek alliances with other countries are contained in notes addressed to the people's commissaries and soviet by Nikolai Lenin, the Bolshevik premier, printed in the Pravda of Petrograd and republished in the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin.

The note reads: "The position on the Czecho-Slovak front is becoming more dangerous daily. We are daily becoming increasingly convinced that alone we are powerless. For the soviet government there is only one way out, namely, to conclude a defensive and offensive alliance with another power."

"In order to save the power of the workers and peasants, we must not even recoil from even an alliance with imperialists."

#### NO HOPE FOR PEACE

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—The peace initiative should have been left to the entente allies, according to the Tages Zeitung of Berlin, which comments on the Austrian peace note. "The fate of all previous announcements as to readiness for peace and a conciliatory spirit on the part of the central powers does not encourage great hopes that their offer will meet with greater success," the newspaper says. "It must naturally encounter great skepticism on our part."

Austria's move may prove quite a risky step," says the Neues Nachrichten of Berlin. The Berlin Post fears the offer will be again interpreted by entente countries as weakness and a sign of impending collapse as well as a begging for peace.

The Vorwarts says: "Austria's peace tentatives will be welcomed by the widest circles of the German people and many hopes in it will be placed but it is necessary to utter a warning over hasty optimism."

### AVIATORS FALL TO THEIR DEATH

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—Lieutenant Charles Kenny, Jr., of Covington, Ky., and E. H. Austin of Boston, were killed when an army airplane from the Mineola aviation field crashed to earth in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn today.

Hundreds of persons who saw the machine "go dead" as it was flying low over trees and house-tops, witnessed its plunge into the back yard of a residence. The airplane was demolished. Doctors who were summoned found both occupants dead.

Shortly before the accident the aviators had been forced by engine trouble to land on the Prospect park parade grounds. They made minor repairs and ascended. The machine then went into a series of loops and made a second landing. Taking the air again the aviators attempted to resume their flight but were forced, when their motive power gave out, to seek a hurried landing.

Lack of open space in which to alight caused the fatal crash.

Kenny was attached to the Garden City, L. I., field and Austin, also a lieutenant, was stationed at Mineola.

### OFFERS INSULT ALLIES

German and Austrian Peace Proposals Meet Disfavor.

#### PLAY FOR TERMS

Allied Victory Would Bring Punishment Central Powers Fear.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Receipt of the official text of the Austrian peace proposal was awaited today by officials here, but unless the communication is couched in terms radically different from the version contained in press dispatches, it was felt that the entire plea could be characterized as a German ruse to obtain the best possible terms before an Allied victory could impose the most severe punishment upon her.

The proposal, it was reiterated, does not contain a single basis upon which the entente powers and the United States would be willing to meet the authors of the plea.

There was doubt today whether a reply would be sent.

#### Proposal Will Fail

PARIS, Sept. 16. (Havas).—The Austrian proposal for a conference of the belligerents was not of a surprise in Parisian political centers where it is considered to be a consequence of the recent military victories of the Allies. The general impression is that the new peace offensive cannot be fruitful.

#### Offer to Belgium An Insult

LONDON, Sept. 16.—Austria's invitation to the belligerents to meet in informal peace discussions is indignantly rejected by the morning newspapers. The offer of peace to Belgium is regarded as a shameful insult.

"The Austrian note does not bring real peace any nearer," says the Express. "Preliminary conditions to peace have been stated over and over again by the Allies and there is not the faintest suggestion that the Central Powers will agree to any one of these conditions. They who drew the sword are scheming to save themselves from perishing by the sword. The disingenuousness of the note betrays that it was written in Wilhelmstrasse, Berlin."

Another Brest-Litovsk Scheme

Relative to the offer of peace to Belgium, the Express says: "This is another Brest-Litovsk scheme and part of the same plan for preserving the power of the Hohenzollerns."

After referring to the sinking of the Galway Castle as a coincidence of the offer of peace, the newspaper says: "The Allied peoples will not shake hands, they will not be friends nor will they agree to any hole-in-the-corner negotiations. Democracy now is at the helm of the world's affairs. Militarism is tottering and, if the German people wish to save themselves from falling with it, they must insist on the preliminary conditions which alone make useful talk possible."

#### Allies Terms Clear

"Our terms have been made abundantly clear," says the Post. "When Germany and her dependents are ready to accept them they can let us know."

The Pacific Daily News is the sole exception to the prevalent tone of comment. Anticipating general rejection of the Austrian proposals, it says that responsible, sober-minded men should nevertheless face the proposals squarely.

"An impudent sham," is the Mail's editorial head over its comment on the note which it describes as "another form of an old German trick."

Kaiser A Ventriloquist

"The German emperor is a ventriloquist whose voice we may hear in this Austrian telegram," the newspaper continues, "and we hear it because the military masters, under whom Germany is bleeding, are afraid. It is not humanity which they have in view, but

the safety of their own skins. Mr. Wilson's great watchword 'no peace with autocracy' applies to Austria. The Allied attitude is clear. We require reparation, restitution and guarantees and, since the fresh German outrages upon French territory, we require the punishment of the criminals. We remind the enemy of President Wilson's words, 'There can be no compromise, no half way decision is tolerable.'"

"We must find a repentant and contrite Germany, and a German policy carried out by very different rulers before we can ever hope to discuss peace," says the Telegraph. "It is true that all nations desire the end of the war, but peace must be lasting. Above all it must be peace which, in Mr. Wilson's words, will make the world safe for democracy. As long as the Kaiser and the Pan-Germans direct with irresistible authority the destinies of Germany, so long can there be no question of an armistice, or purely academic negotiations."

Russian Question Must Be Settled

MANCHESTER, England, Sept. 16.—The Guardian discussing the Austrian peace note asks if the Central powers would be willing to restore the countries they have overrun, reverse the Brest-Litovsk treaty, set Russia free and leave Poland, Lithuania, Estonia and Ukraine to settle their own welfare.

"These are among the questions which the Entente Allied nations are entitled to question before entering upon confidential negotiations," the Guardian declares.

Berlin Denies Austrian Note.

PARIS, Sept. 16. (Havas).—It is reported from a Berlin semi-official source that Foreign Minister Buriann's move in dictating the note inviting the belligerents to a conference constituted an act binding upon Austria alone, says a Zurich dispatch today. Germany, it is declared, took no part whatever in drawing up the note.

London Celebrates Victory

LONDON, Sept. 16.—American residents of London celebrated the American victory in public places last night. Londoners generally informed by special editions of the continued satisfactory progress of the American attack and the Austrian peace offer, displayed exuberance and hopefulness that was in marked contrast with the gloom of the summer months. It was felt that with the American army fighting under the guns of the fortress of Metz and with Austria making an official bid for peace, things at last were really in the desired direction.

Austria's note is in the hands of the government, together with information that Germany has made a direct offer of peace to Belgium.

It is needless to say that these peace feelers make little impression on either the government or people. They are pointed out, however, as a revelation of enemy appreciation of the meaning of American military participation in the war. The view is held in political circles that Germany realizes she soon will be compelled to withdraw from Belgium and if she could secure a treaty barring Belgian territory to Allied troops she would be protecting Germany against hostile attack.

In the speech made at Manchester by Premier Lloyd George it is believed he replied in advance to any peace tentatives. In fact, it is believed the premier knew that Austria had this move in mind when he delivered the speech.

### Balfour Denounces Austrian Peace Note

LONDON, Sept. 16.—A. J. Balfour, the British foreign secretary, giving his personal viewpoints on the Austrian peace note to visiting journalists says: "It is incredible that anything can come of this proposal."

The foreign secretary said he was utterly unable to see that a conference proposed by Austria could have the desired end.

"I cannot honestly, in the proposals now made to us, as I have been able to study them," Mr. Balfour said, "see the slightest hope that the goal we desire—the goal of a peace which would be more than a truce—can really be attained."

Coming after the recent speech of Friedrich von Payer, the German imperial chancellor, Mr. Balfour said "this cynical proposal of the Austrian government is not a genuine attempt to obtain peace. It is an attempt to divide the Allies."

Mr. Balfour said no one should take upon himself the task of rejecting with a light heart any proposal which would shorten the length of the war.

He also declared that no coalition ever had been so strong as the Allied coalition and that the enemy would not succeed in breaking it.

Conversations which were proposed by Austria-Hungary, Mr. Balfour said, undoubtedly would have great value under certain circumstances. He said they would serve to smooth out obscurities, such as questions of pride, but he declared that the question now between the belligerents were definitely defined.

"I am not taking the proposals of

### PITIFUL SCENES AT PORT

Tots Landed From Galway Castle Cry for Parents.

#### WHOLE FAMILIES LOST

Lifeboat After Lifeboat Swamped by Waves.

PLYMOUTH, Sunday, Sept. 16.—Heartrending scenes were witnessed here when hundreds of survivors of the steamer Galway Castle, which was torpedoed Friday morning, were landed at 7 o'clock this morning. The passengers were mostly women and children and it is believed that whole families have been lost.

Among the survivors were little tots scarcely able to walk, crying in vain for their parents. Parents were searching in all directions for news of their children and women were seeking vainly for their lost husbands. It mattered nothing that warm dry clothing was distributed to take the place for the scanty attire survivors snatched as they left the ship. Their one thought was to get news of their relatives and friends.

There seems no reason to doubt that the vessel was torpedoed without the slightest warning. The explosion occurred between the engine room and the stokehold, a fact which is taken to rule out any possibility that the ship struck a mine. The explosion caused comparatively little noise but caused the ship to buckle in a most extraordinary manner. She was injured at the extreme bottom and was bent and torn clear to the upper deck and seemed likely to break in two at any moment. The rush of water was tremendous.

Fearing that the liner would founder at any moment, Captain Dyer ordered the boats lowered and issued lifebelts to all passengers. One boat was swung out another was damaged because the falls became fouled and another was swept back against the liner by a wave and smashed by the propeller. Another narrowly escaped a similar fate.

LONDON, Friday, Sept. 13.—The British steamer Galway Castle of 7388 tons gross, was torpedoed and sunk this morning. She had 749 persons on board, of whom many were reported saved.

The Galway Castle left port for South Africa on Tuesday last and was torpedoed on Thursday in a stormy sea. Hundreds of the passengers were rescued by attending steamers but twenty first-class, ten second-class and ninety third-class passengers are missing, in addition thirty-four of the crew, a total of 154.

LONDON, Sept. 15.—Closer scrutiny of the Galway Castle passenger list indicated that she had on board only 749, instead of 960, as announced earlier. The majority were women and children, but many were discharged soldiers returning to their homes. The boats were picked up by escorting vessels and by destroyers sent to the spot.

AUSTRALIAN WAR LOAN

MELBOURNE, Australia, Sept. 16. Via Montreal.—The seventh Australian war loan campaign was inaugurated enthusiastically today. The first bond sold went to the lord-mayor. It is hoped to raise £40,000,000 in a month's campaign.

Two years ago or of last year, but of last week," Secretary Balfour said. "The German vice-chancellor, speaking for the German government, clearly and without obscure vision showed where Germany stood on the question of Belgium, Alsace-Lorraine, the German colonies and the Brest-Litovsk and Bucharest treaties."

IMPORTATION OF HEMP SEED.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Importation of hemp seed, canary seed and alfalfa seed is prohibited under an order today by the war industries board. Substitutes for these seeds are grown at home.

### SERBS START FIGHT

Reorganized Army and French Forces Attack Bulgars.

#### CAPTURE POSITIONS

Three Strongest Places, Held for 18 Months, Taken.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Launching of an offensive against the Bulgarians on the Salonika front by the re-organized Serbian army, in co-operation with French forces and the capture of three strongly fortified Bulgarian positions is announced in an official Serbian communication received here today from Salonika.

The positions taken are Teak, Vetrnik, Dobropolie and the mountain Sokol, which the Bulgars had held for eighteen months and were regarded as their strongest places. Starting yesterday after artillery preparation the Serbians and French moved forward, reached their objectives and were still going when today's dispatch was filed.

The communication follows: "Salonika, September 16:

"After necessary artillery preparation started on September 14 the Serbian army in co-operation with French troops, attacked on September 15 the strongly organized Bulgarian positions on the front of Teak Vetrnik (1024 feet), Dobropolie (557 feet), Mountain Sokol (457 feet). These positions represent by far the most important points held by the enemy on the Salonika front and the Bulgarians have been fortifying them for the last thirty months.

"Our attack has been completely successful; the enemy front is now pierced and all three of the mentioned positions are in our hands. We have taken several hundred Bulgarian prisoners, numerous guns and great quantities of other war materials. Our operation continues."

Lively Artillery Activity

PARIS, Sunday, Sept. 16.—The French front office on operations on Macedonia Saturday says: "Army of the east, September 14: There was lively artillery activity along the entire front. In the Doiran sector British troops carried out a raid. Between the lakes an enemy raid was repulsed."

"French, Serbian and British aviators dropped two tons of bombs on enemy encampment."

DUTCH PAPERS PRINT NOTE.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—The Austro-Hungarian peace proposals reached the Dutch Sunday newspapers just in time for its publication without comment. The possibilities of the situation, created were, however, eagerly canvassed in various quarters and an excited speculation in foreign currency, stated to have run into the millions, was in progress throughout Sunday.

Marks, which closed Saturday at 31.55 were largely bought privately Sunday afternoon at 34 while Austrian crowns rose from 17.25 to 19.50.

HOUSE DEBATING REVENUE.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—All other business displaced, the house today got down to real work on the \$8,000,000 revenue bill. Consideration of amendments began under rule limiting members to five minute speeches on each amendment. With their agreement to set aside all routine calendar matters leaders were confident of passing the bill not later than next Friday.

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